

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

PO Box 116, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
Phone: 573/526-9100 Fax: 573/634-7966
E-mail: mosema@mail.state.mo.us



Situation Report

Severe Storms with Tornadoes

May 7, 2003

Tuesday, May 6, 2003, another line of thunderstorms developed super cells with tornadoes as it crossed the State of Missouri following just south of Highway 50 from across Central Missouri. Heavy rains, large hail also accompanied these storms. Flash flooding from these storms also caused damage in eastern Missouri. There have been no reported deaths from these storms.

Governor Bob Holden announced that FEMA has approved Missouri's request for federal disaster assistance for 39 Missouri counties because of the tornadoes and storms that occurred on Sunday, May 4, 2003.

Please Note: Number of fatalities changed from 17 to 18 due to the discovery of a young infant in rural Lawrence County.

County Reports:

(Note: This listing of counties reflect only those that have reported their damages to SEMA. Further reports are anticipated from other affected counties.)

Please Note: Counties names reporting damages from May 6th Storms are in Bold-Faced Type.

Barton County: No changes reported.

Bollinger County: Reported a home destroyed near Grassi, Missouri. Another home was destroyed, one damaged and one barn destroyed in the County. No injuries or fatalities had been reported.

Camden County: No changes reported

Cape Girardeau County: Heavy rains and flash flooding took out all power for Jackson, Missouri. Police/Fire Complex damaged and operations were moved next door to the City Administrative Building. A quick assessment showed 5 to 10 businesses with minor damage and one a total loss. 70-80 homes damaged – 40% with minor damage, 50% with major damage and 10% destroyed. Three shelters were opened.

Cass County: No changes reported

Cedar County: Preliminary damage assessment team reported the following for the City of Stockton: Single Family Dwellings (includes 35 Mobile Homes) Destroyed – 77, Major Damage – 73, Minor Damage – 65, Affected 120. Multi-Family Homes – 2 destroyed (one 15 unit and one 24 unit). Duplexes – 13 (2 units for a total of 26). Total units – 335 units affected. Single Family 236, Multi-family 64 units and 35 mobile homes.

Christian County: No changes reported

Clay County: Change of the number of Damage Homes (Major) increased from 30 to 65.

Cole County: Power and telephones are down throughout the county. 50 homes with minor to severe damage, one road closed.

Dallas County: No changes reported.

Greene County: No changes reported.

Jackson County: No changes reported.

Jasper County: Requested National Guard assistance for debris removal, but Declaration will now allow contractors to assist in the removal process.

Jefferson County: City of Desoto hard hit by tornado. Desoto Junior High School collapsed. Power lines down, several homes collapsed with people inside. No fatalities and major injuries reported. Missouri National Guard (12 soldiers) and Missouri Highway Patrol (12-15 Troopers) have reported to Desoto to assist in security missions. Flash flooding was causing problems in the initial response, but flood waters were receding. Crystal City also reported flash flooding.

Johnson County: Reported downed power lines and some hail damage. No definitive reports of damage.

Lawrence County: One additional death has been confirmed by Lawrence County officials. A two-year old had been found in rural Lawrence County.

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Moniteau County: Trees down, one farmhouse east of Tipton was heavily damaged.

Osage County: Trees down, no other damage reported

Pettis County: No changes reported.

Platte County: No changes reported.

Phelps County: One tornado had touched down north of Rolla National Airport. 2 mobile homes had been reported as heavily damaged. Trees and power lines are down throughout the county. Flash flooding was occurring in some areas in Rolla.

Polk County: Tornado reported to have touched down near Morrisville. One business in Eudora was partially damaged.

Pulaski County: Reported trees down, road crews are removing them. Crocker, Richland and St. Roberts areas affected. Some single-family homes may be affected, but no further information is expected until daylight.

SEMA Actions: SEMA preliminary disaster assessment (PDA) teams were deployed throughout the disaster areas to check on damages. With the Presidential Declaration, they were recalled late yesterday and will be sent to check on damages that occurred last night in Desoto, Missouri.

FEDERAL/STATE Actions: FEMA's Regional Operations Center in Kansas City remains open to assist the States of Missouri and Kansas. Department of Homeland Security Under Secretary for FEMA, Mike Brown will be toured disaster sites in Kansas (KC), Missouri (KC, Springfield, and Pierce City) and announced the approval of Governor Holden's request for a Presidential Declaration of Disaster.

Other State Agency Actions: Department of Natural Resources has been addressing the debris removal and permit process for burning debris and other environmental issues. Missouri Department of Health and Human Services has been assisting communities in testing water and monitoring health conditions in disaster areas. Debris removal and loans of equipment from the Missouri Department of Transportation has provided support to local agencies. Missouri State Highway Patrol has assigned additional troopers in areas to assist locals in providing security. Missouri Water Patrol had dispatched two officers to assist locals in Rolla and then in Union, Missouri.

Actions of Human Services Organizations and Missouri Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster: Thirty representatives from various volunteer organizations met via teleconference to assess needs and available resources, and to share information. Red Cross is conducting bulk distribution of bottled water, trash bags, comfort kits, and work gloves. Additional items will be distributed soon.

Two sectors within the state for donations operations are being established. Several warehouses are being secured for managing donations.

- The Salvation Army is setting up a multi-agency warehouse at 1110 East Truman in Kansas City, MO and a distribution center at 59th Terrace and North Oak in Kansas City, North. The Salvation Army will manage donations for the Greater Kansas City area. Donors can call the The Salvation Army Helpline at 816-221-1525 for information.
- The Emergency Management Director for Polk County is setting up a warehouse in Bolivar to serve the Southwest Missouri counties. Bottles of water and Gatorade, and prepackaged snack food are requested. Donations of used clothing will not be accepted at this time. A donations management phone bank is being planned at this time. The locations are to be determined.

The Red Cross and Salvation Army have mobile and/or fixed mass feeding programs engaged in KC. and SW counties. Missouri Southern Baptists have sent chainsaw teams for debris removal to Liberty, Pierce City, and Carl Junction. Mennonite Disaster Services has deployed debris clearance teams to affected areas. United Methodist Committee on Relief and Church World Services has deployed coordination staff to affected areas to assess needs and resources. Other faith-based organizations are assessing needs and deploying staff to affected areas. Humane Society of the United States and Emergency Animal Rescue Services are assessing and addressing animal welfare needs.

The Department of Social Services has been helping coordinate reception and care operations through a liaison assigned to the State Emergency Operations Center and County Division of Family Services offices.

Shelter Situation:

Open Shelters:

- Aurora – First Baptist Church - day use only – ARC
- Cape Girardeau – Three Centers opened in Jackson, MO. - ARC
- Monett – Liberty United Methodist Church - ARC
- Battlefield – First Baptist Church - ARC
- Stockton – First Baptist Church - ARC
- Carl Junction – High School - ARC
- Pierce City St. - Mary's Church - ARC

Shelter on Standby:

- Humansville – High School - ARC
- Billings – High School - ARC

Forecast: Morning weather will be mostly cloudy with temperatures rising into the low 70's. A period of good weather is expected for the next two days. Next weather storm front is expected to arrive on Saturday, May 10th.

Deaths by County (Confirmed)

Barton County – 1
Camden County - 3
Cedar County – 3
Christian County – 1
Dallas County - 2
Greene County - 1
Jasper County - 2
Lawrence County – 5 (Increased by one, see County Reports)

Total - 18

National Guard Activation*

Pierce City - 40 soldiers for security mission (Mission number increased from 38)
Gladstone – 29 soldiers for security mission (Released from Mission 5/6, but will not stand down til 5/7)*
Stockton – 15 soldiers for electrical assistance
Battlefield – 63 soldiers for security mission
Jefferson City – 2 MONG Army Aviators for helicopter reconnaissance of East Central Missouri
Marionville – 14 soldiers for security mission (Mission number increased from 12)
Desoto – 12 soldiers for security mission

Total – 175

Mutual Aid No changes reported.

Points of Contact: SEMA Duty Officer after hours number is 573-751-2748, during normal hours calls should be made to 573-526-9100.